

SECRET

SENT

25X1

ON-FILE NSC
RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

1971 JUL 8 21

VZCZCDS1050

1689 1891855

ZNY MMNSH

O 081842Z ZYH ZFF-1

FM THE WHITE HOUSE 25X1

TO AMEMB ISLAMBAD

ZEM

SECRET

WH10648 FINAL SECTION OF TWO

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

71 JUL 8 PM 5:38

CEASE-FIRE

THE "7 POINTS" REPRESENT A HARDER POSITION IN RESPECT TO CEASE-FIRE. THE "3 POINT" PROPOSAL OF DECEMBER 10, 1970 STATED THAT A CEASE-FIRE WITH U.S. TROOPS WOULD BE OBSERVED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE U.S. SET A JUNE 30, 1971 DEADLINE. THE NEW PROPOSAL, HOWEVER, CALLS FOR A WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENT PRIOR TO SUCH A CEASE-FIRE.

THE "3 POINTS" STATED THAT A CEASE-FIRE WITH GVN FORCES WOULD BE OBSERVED IMMEDIATELY AFTER A NEW SAIGON GOVERNMENT AGREED TO FORM A COALITION GOVERNMENT. THE "7 POINTS," ON THE OTHER HAND, CALL FOR THE ACTUAL FORMATION OF A COALITION GOVERNMENT PRIOR TO A CEASE-FIRE.

FUTURE STATUS OF VIETNAMESE ARMED FORCES

THE "7 POINT" PROPOSAL CONTAINS NEW LANGUAGE WHICH STATES THAT THE QUESTION OF THE VIETNAMESE ARMED FORCES WILL BE "SETTLED" WITH A VIEW "TO MAKING LIGHTER THE PEOPLE'S CONTRIBUTIONS." IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE COMMUNISTS WOULD SEEK TO LIGHTEN "THE PEOPLE'S CONTRIBUTION" BY REDUCING OR DISBANDING THE ARVN.

POLITICAL SETTLEMENT

POINT TWO ON A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IS PROBABLY INTENDED, INTER ALIA, TO ENCOURAGE BOTH SOUTH VIETNAMESE VOTERS AND THE U.S. TO OUST THIEU IN THE COMING ELECTIONS. THE "VARIOUS MEANS" WHICH MAY BE USED IN DISPOSING OF THIEU NO DOUBT INCLUDE ELECTIONS--DESPITE COMMUNIST INSISTENCE THAT THESE ELECTIONS "CANNOT BE FREE."

COMMUNIST CONCERN ABOUT THE UPCOMING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IS IMPLIED IN THE DEMAND THAT THE U.S. MUST STOP ELECTION "TRICKS" DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN THIEU IN POWER. THIS IS ALSO REFLECTED IN THE LE DUC TWO INTERVIEW CITED ABOVE.

POINT TWO DEMANDS THAT THE U.S. CEASE BACKING THE "BELLICOSE GROUP" HEADED BY THIEU "AT PRESENT." THIS PROBABLY MEANS THAT THE PRESENT TYPE OF GVN OR "BELLICOSE GROUP" MUST GO REGARDLESS OF WHO MIGHT SUCCEED THIEU.

THE FACT THAT THIS PROPOSAL DOES NOT, LIKE PREVIOUS PROPOSALS, CALL FOR THE REMOVAL THE THIEU, KY, AND KHIEM CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO KY'S CURRENT OPPOSITION TO THIEU. THE COMMUNISTS, AT THIS TIME, WANT TO EXPLOIT THIS "INTERNAL CONTRADICTION" BY FOCUSING THEIR ATTACKS ON THIEU ALONE.

THE "7 POINTS" SUBSTITUTE "GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CONCORD" FOR THE LESS PALATABLE "PROVISIONAL COALITION GOVERNMENT" PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED. THE PRG SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED; HOWEVER, THAT THE COMPOSITION OF SUCH A GOVERNMENT WOULD BE THE SAME AS IN PREVIOUS PROPOSALS. ALSO, UNLIKE PREVIOUS PROPOSALS, THE "7 POINTS" DO NOT MENTION THAT A COALITION GOVERNMENT WILL BE FORMED AS THE RESULT OF FUTURE ELECTIONS.

REUNIFICATION

THE POINT ON REUNIFICATION IS BASICALLY NOT NEW EXCEPT FOR REFERENCES TO FREE MOVEMENT, FREE CHOICE OF RESIDENCE, AND FREE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE NORTH AND SOUTH "ZONES." AS MENTIONED ABOVE, THE "FREE CHOICE OF RESIDENCE" COULD BE USED TO THWART FORCED REPATRIATION OF NORTH VIETNAMESE POWS. "FREE MOVEMENT" COULD LEGITIMIZE THE MOVEMENT OF TROOPS, POLITICAL CADRES, AND OTHERS FROM THE NORTH TO SOUTH VIETNAM.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

THE "7 POINTS" GO FARTHER THAN PREVIOUS PROPOSALS IN STATING A WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT AID FROM AND MAINTAIN TIES WITH THE U.S. AND OTHER FOREIGN COUNTRIES. THIS WAS DESIGNED TO REASSURE THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE THAT THE PROPOSED CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT RESULT IN ISOLATION FROM THE U.S. AND OTHER NON-COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, NOR WOULD IT CUT OFF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FROM THESE COUNTRIES. LE DUC THO IN HIS RECENT INTERVIEW NOTED THAT AFTER THE WAR WITH FRANCE WAS SETTLED "THERE WAS NO OBSTACLE" TO BUILDING "FRIENDLY" RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FRENCH AND VIETNAMESE PEOPLE. IN FACT, SUCH RELATIONS WERE ALMOST TOTALLY SEVERED BY HANOI AFTER THE WAR ENDED.

REPARATIONS

IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT THE ABOVE POINT WAS FOLLOWED BY A RENEWAL OF THE 1969 "10 POINT" DEMAND FOR REPARATIONS. THIS INDICATES THE NATURE OF "ECONOMIC AID" EXPECTED FROM THE U.S. THE COMMUNISTS MIGHT ALSO FEEL THAT THE CURRENT ATMOSPHERE IN THE U.S. MAKES THIS A PROPITIOUS TIME TO RAISE THE REPARATIONS QUESTION.

INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEE

THE "7 POINT" REFERENCE TO AN "INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEE" OF A SETTLEMENT IS NEW AND WAS PROBABLY ADDED TO MAKE THE WHOLE PROPOSAL MORE ATTRACTIVE. THE NORTH VIETNAMESE SPOKESMAN DAMPENED SPECULATION THAT THIS MIGHT HINT AT A COMMUNIST WILLINGNESS TO ENGAGE IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THIS SUBJECT. LITTLE MORE CAN BE SAID ON THIS POINT WITHOUT FURTHER CLARIFICATION FROM THE COMMUNIST SIDE.

THE LE DUC THO INTERVIEW MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE COMMUNISTS WILL INSIST THAT THE U.S. DISCUSS THE ENTIRE SEVEN POINTS AND NOT JUST POINT ONE ON WITHDRAWAL AND PRISONER RELEASES.

900

1639

SECRET

NNNN